



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
Engineer Research and
Development Center

News Release

Release No. A01-00

Contact: **PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE**

For Release: Immediately

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Col. James A. Walter becomes new TEC Director

Col. James A. Walter became the Director of the U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center's Topographic Engineering Center in Alexandria, Va., on Jan. 10, 2000. He replaces Dr. William E. Roper who is retiring.

Formerly, Col. Walter was the Executive Director of Research and Development at Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Prior to that assignment, he was Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Construction Engineering Research Laboratories in Champaign, Ill.

In 1971, Col. Walter graduated from the U.S. Military Academy with a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering and holds a Masters of Science in Civil Engineering from the University of Washington in Seattle, Wash. Col. Walter is a graduate of the Army War College. He is a registered Professional Engineer in the Commonwealth of Virginia and the State of Washington.

Col. Walter has an extensive background in the Corps of Engineers and in the facilities engineering arena. He served as the Facilities Engineer in Sinope, Turkey, and Dhahran, Saudi Arabia; and as the Executive Director of the Engineering Directorate, Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management on the Army Staff. His service in the Corps of Engineers includes Design Engineer, Buffalo District; Deputy Director of the Humphreys Engineer Center Support Activity; and District Engineer, Walla Walla District. During Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, he was responsible for acquiring construction and facilities support from the Saudi Arabian government for U.S. forces in the Gulf.

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Walter has also been assigned to the National Imagery and Mapping Agency as the program manager for the U.S. Central Command.

Col. Walter's military awards include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Bronze Star, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, and five awards of the Meritorious Service Medal. He is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers and the Society of American Military Engineers.